

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

No amendments to the claims are made by this amendment.

III. SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are submitted for consideration in this RCE by the Examiner in the examination of the above-identified patent application. The full consideration of the references in their entirety by the Examiner is respectfully requested and encouraged. Also, it is respectfully requested that the references be entered into the record of the present application and that the Examiner place his or her initials in the appropriate area on the enclosed Form 1449, thereby indicating the Examiner's consideration of each of the references.

The submission of the references listed on the Form 1449 is for the purpose of providing a complete record and is not a concession that the references listed thereon are prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application, or that non-patent references listed thereon are publications or otherwise prior art to the invention claimed in the patent application. The right is expressly reserved to establish an invention date earlier than the above-identified filing date in order to remove any reference submitted herewith as prior art should it be deemed appropriate to do so.

Further, the submission of the references is not to be taken as a concession that any reference represents art that is relevant or analogous to the claimed invention. Accordingly, the right to argue that any reference is not properly within the scope of prior art relevant to an examination of the claims in the above-identified application is also expressly reserved.

This art cited includes the following and copies are provided with this submission.

I. U.S PATENTS

1. U. S. Patent No. 5,018,985 (MOORE), May 28, 1991.
2. U. S. Patent No. 6,264,501 (HUNG et al.), July 24, 2001.
3. U. S. Patent No. 6,332,813 (OKABE et al.), December 25, 2001.
4. U. S. Patent No. 6,375,517 (OKABE et al.), April 23, 2002

II. FOREIGN PATENTS

5. European Patent Application No. 0 766 352 (BEUTLER et al.), April 2, 1997.

III. PUBLICATIONS

6. International Search report in PCT Application No. PCT/US03/19704, the PCT counterpart of the present application, mailed October 20, 2003..
7. IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, Vol. 39, No. 08, August 1996, Pages 181-182, "Personal Computer Channel Connector XP 000638181.

It is believed that none of this prior art discloses or suggest the invention claimed in the pending claims, as well as the inventions mentioned in the Examiner's Statement for Reasons for Allowance.

Consideration of this art and the issuance of a second Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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